



LITTER CLEAN UP AND SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU for your interest in helping make Victorville “Clean and Green.” Your help with picking up litter is greatly appreciated. Following are some guidelines to help keep you and your fellow volunteers safe. Please make sure to read these guidelines and go over them with everyone else who will be helping out during your litter pick up project before starting the clean up. Our primary concern is the health and safety of volunteers.

- Evaluate weather conditions. Discontinue working, if weather (or other adverse circumstance) causes a public hazard.
- Work must be performed during daylight hours.
- All volunteers must wear closed-toe, flat-heeled shoes. No sandals, no flip-flops, no clogs. Volunteers without closed-toe shoes cannot participate in the clean up.
- All volunteers must wear gloves when picking up litter.
- Light-colored clothing and long-sleeved shirts are recommended. Put on your safety gear before traveling to your site and do not take it off on until you have left the roadside. It is recommended that you and other volunteers wear long pants.
- Vehicles must park completely off of paved areas and be at least six feet from any traffic lane. If this is not possible and your site has a shoulder, then use a drop-off and pick-up arrangement instead. Or, enter and exit your site on foot from locations that allow you to face oncoming traffic.
- If you are injured while picking up litter, you should take appropriate steps to arrange for your own medical care as a private individual. The City of Victorville is not responsible or liable for providing, arranging, or paying for medical services or attention.
- Never risk injury. Stay completely off of paved areas and always remain at least six feet from any traffic lane. Use extreme caution when crossing conventional, two-lane highways; plan to use crosswalks and signals where available. Do not work on unstable or slippery ground, on bridges, in tunnels, or in drainage facilities. Avoid behaviors that will distract motorists; this includes working in groups of more than three or four persons. Drink plenty of water.
- Material targeted for clean up is litter. Volunteers should NOT pick up any large, bulky items.

- You should limit your litter clean up activities to the areas adjacent to the road. Do not go onto private property/lots. Respect private property. Do not go onto any properties posted with “Private Property” or “No Trespassing” signs. Do not go onto property behind fences or gates. If you are asked to leave an area by someone claiming to be a property owner, please leave the area.
- If volunteers find appliances, televisions, furniture, or other large items, please make a note of the location and items. Notify the City of Victorville Solid Waste Division, Code Enforcement at (760) 955-5095. These items can be flagged for follow up at a later date by the City or the property owner, if possible.
- **BE AWARE OF SPIDERS AND SNAKES. Do not put hands or feet into bushes, under debris, into tires, or any other places that may harbor snakes or spiders. Use litter sticks to pull litter out of bushes.**
- **If you find a snake, DO NOT poke at it or aggravate it. Slowly back away from the area, and discontinue your clean up in that area.**
- Be careful to avoid stepping on nails or broken glass.
- Do NOT handle any hazardous wastes or potentially hazardous materials—including motor oil, gasoline, batteries, syringes, plastic containers that smell or appear to contain noxious materials, etc. If you do not know what something is, do not touch or handle it. The location of any hazardous materials should be noted for later follow up by the City’s Hazardous Materials Specialist.
- As volunteers, you need to apply reasonable precaution and care when picking up litter. Use common sense if you encounter something that may seem out of the ordinary. Do not handle the item and contact the Adopt-A-Street Program Coordinator.
- Litter sticks and grabbing tools are provided. Litter sticks should NEVER be pointed at anyone. They should be held with point down. They should not be used as toys, or swords. Young children should not be given litter sticks – only the plastic grabbing tools.

AFTER THE CLEAN UP:

All litter items should be placed in plastic bags, if possible, and bags must be tied securely shut. Please stack all bags at the designated location for pick up by the City.

After collection, please contact the City of Victorville Solid Waste Division, Code Enforcement at (760) 955-5095, to arrange for bags to be collected and to return any and all supplies (extra bags, litter sticks, etc.).

Thank you for volunteering in this beneficial community project. Your efforts do make a difference.

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